

THE KKK IN FLORIDA

(Continued from Page One) "table" organization which is "opposed to violence". However, one of the three incorporators of the Ku Klux Klan of Florida, which was chartered in the Orlando area on September 7th, 1944 in a move to dodge the Federal tax lien against the Klan, is A. F. Gillam of Clarcona. Stetson "Southern Exposure" Kennedy reports that this individual is none other than Arlie F. Gillam, who was indicted for second degree murder in the death of Joseph Shoemaker in Tampa in 1935.

Shoemaker, who had organized a Modern Democratic Party in an effort to break the stranglehold of a corrupt city political machine, was arrested and released when no charges could be sustained, only to be kidnapped in front of the police station by a band of Klan-Kops who proceeded to flog and castrate him and forced him to sit in a bucket of hot tar. Shoemaker died after nine days of agony.

Gillam was arrested on December 22nd, 1935, at his home near Apopka, where he was a citrus grove tender, on a warrant charging that he "from premeditated design . . . did commit an assault upon Joseph Shoemaker, inflicting mortal wounds from which the said Joseph Shoemaker did languish and on the 9th day of December, did die."

At the time of his arrest, it was reported that Gillam and another man in Orlando were carrying Klan cards. According to arresting Sheriff McLeod, "The two men arrested at Orlando are members of the Ku Klux Klan, and Gillam told me he was a former state officer in the Klan."

According to the Tampa Tribune: "Gillam and Spivey were among the hundreds of men recruited throughout south Florida, hauled into Tampa and armed with shotguns, pistols, hoe handles and other weapons for the city election . . . he said it was made known in August that men were wanted here on election day, and seven or eight automobile loads of them met at the Orlando railroad station and arrived here about 7 o'clock. He and Gillam rode all day in a police car, answering radio calls, he added, and that night each was paid \$10 at the police station."

This, then, is one of the three incorporators of the self-styled "fraternal, benevolent, charitable" Ku Klux Klan of Florida. The Klan's record of violence and terrorism in Florida is too notorious to require recounting.

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The Jewish Publication Society
222 N. Fifteenth St.
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February 3, 1947

Mr. Isadore Moscovitz
The Southern Jewish Weekly
P. O. Box 903
Jacksonville 1, Fla.

Dear Mr. Moscovitz:

We deeply appreciate your cooperation in getting us new members for The Jewish Publication Society, whether \$5 or \$10 memberships.

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With kindest personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,
Maurice Jacobs
Executive Vice-Pres.

Presbyterian Minister Represents Jewish Community

(Continued from Page One)

The Rev. Gilbert stressed the fact that this was the third time in 17 years that he had left his pulpit for out-of-town business. The JDA Conference, he felt, was so important that he could not refuse the request when he was asked to represent the Jews of Freemont. In joining with my Jewish brethren in this event, I am only doing my duty as an American and as a Christian," he said.

After the Rev. Gilbert's return to Freemont, he was tendered a testimonial dinner. Reporting that he was highly impressed with the work of the JDA, and that the Federal Council of Churches of Christ, of which his church is a member, is working with the JDA to combat intolerance and spread interfaith understanding, he declared.

"The responsibility of combatting anti-Semitism is a responsibility of all Americans, regardless of religion. With economic decline will come a resurgence of the evil idea which did not die with Hitler. Anti-Semitism is like a rattlesnake, which must be killed while it is small."

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MUSINGS . . .

By Mrs. Isadore Moscovitz
If a persevering intelligent, professional person in the Jewish field arrives in Jacksonville for any length of time you can rest assured that just as he has his Jewish duties started he will become engrossed in launching his Jewish brethren on a crusade for negro rights . . . Remember Rabbi Panitz? . . . Hershel Auerbach? . . . Carl Alpert? . . . and others who were here for short or long stays . . .

Many of us have been sympathetic and understanding of their stands and most of us have agreed wholeheartedly . . . Yet, I for one, have often wondered what these liberal-minded people hope to accomplish by the methods they employed by preaching to Jewish audiences what should be done to elevate the colored people . . . Behind the fine addresses is the insinuation that Southern Jewry must raise itself above the inherent prejudices of the Southland . . . This has never failed to amaze me inasmuch as approximately 70% of "Southern" Jewry consists of Northern Jews transplanted . . . Of course this doesn't excuse anything—prejudice North or South should be combatted . . . but I do not believe that the amount of accusations cast at Southern Jewry is in proportion to the facts . . .

Locally, in the last few months Jacksonville Jewish merchants have done some fine things for the colored citizenry . . . In answer to the charge that Jewish merchants in the negro shopping centers do not employ colored help may I say that the Jewish owned Daylight Groceries have opened one of the largest and most modern food markets in the South at Eighth and Davis streets and it is entirely staffed by colored personnel . . . Neither is this an isolated case . . . There are other colored salesmen and helpers employed by Jewish firms . . .

The new Wolfson block complete with its clean, up-to-the-minute stores and its new theatre has done a great deal for colored morale issue . . . I maintain that the that this is inconsequential in the face of the negro fight in the South for the right to vote, may I add that the prospect of a weekly fashion show conducted by colored models in the lovely new Roosevelt Theatre in the "block" is an up-lift for domestics living in hovels . . .

There are other cases which can be cited . . . but stating example for example can often cloud the issue . . . I maintain that the problem is neither wholly a Southern one nor can Southern Jewry be set aside by itself and accused of silently bearing witness to a bad condition.

The problems of the negroes is a national one and can be aided by supporting such measures as the FEPC . . . This business of demanding that one minority come to the assistance of another simply doesn't work . . . There are too many purposes of cross currents . . . In this exhibition of brotherly love what are we to do with anti-Semitic negroes who do not want our good will? . . .

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Congress Lawyer Wins Merit Award



Miss Pauli Murray, a member of the legal staff of the Commission on Law and Social Action of the American Jewish Congress, won the 1946 Mademoiselle Merit Award for signal achievement in law. A graduate of Howard University law school and recipient of a Rosenwald Fellowship, Miss Murray was temporary Deputy Attorney General for the State of California before joining the staff of the American Jewish Congress to aid in its campaign against racial discrimination.

Drive For \$15,000,000 University Of Judaism

New York, (JTA)—A 1947 drive for \$1,560,000 in the metropolitan area toward the development of a University of Judaism at the Jewish Theological Seminary has been launched here. Sixty-one congregations and communities in this region will participate in the campaign, it was announced.

Judge Emanuel Greenberg of the New York State Court of Claims, who has been named chairman of the drive in the New York area, said at a press conference that the effort here was part of a national three-year campaign to raise \$15,000,000 toward the creation of the University, which would provide facilities for study, research and training in every aspect of Jewish life. The national quota for 1947 is \$5,000,000.

It is planned to develop a School of Jewish Social Work, a School of Advanced Jewish Studies, a Center of Jewish Music, Arts and Letters and other units at the University. The drive is being conducted in cooperation with the United Synagogue, national organization of Conservative Jewish congregations, and the Rabbinical Assembly, national body of the Conservative rabbinate.

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